

ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL



Michael Julian Bond
Post 1 At-Large



Aaron Watson
Post 2 At-Large



H. Lamar Willis
Post 3 At-Large



Carla Smith
District 1



Kwanza Hall
District 2



Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
District 3



Clela Winslow
District 4



Natalyn Archibong
District 5



Alex Wan
District 6



Howard Shook
District 7



Yolanda Adrean
District 8



Felicia A. Moore
District 9



C.T. Martin
District 10



Keisha Lance Bottoms
District 11



Joyce M. Shepard
District 12



Caesar C. Mitchell
Atlanta City Council, President



ATLANTA

How Your Atlanta City Council Works

Introduction

The Atlanta City Government is divided into three bodies: the legislative, executive and judicial branches. The Council serves as the legislative branch. City departments, under the direction of the mayor, constitute the executive branch and the Courts, the judicial branch.

Legislative Branch

The legislative body, comprised of the Council, makes the laws that govern the city. It is responsible for the development of policies which serve as operational standards and establishes the parameters for the administration of city government.

Executive Branch

The Executive body carries out the laws that have been instituted by the Council. It is responsible for the day-to-day operations of city government.

City Charter

A new charter was enacted in 1996 that reduced the representation of Council to 12 districts and 3 at large posts — effective January 1998.

The 1974 Charter resulted in many changes in Atlanta City government. Prior to its adoption, the legislative body was called the Board of Aldermen and each alderman was elected city-wide. The 1974 charter changed the Board of Aldermen to the City Council; the vice-mayor to the president of the Council; and established 12 Council members to be elected from individual districts and six at-large posts. The administration of the day-to-day operation of city government was transferred to the executive branch, and legislative authority was vested in the Council. This system allows the Council to maintain a strong system of checks and balances.

Legislative Process

Legislation can be introduced on the floor of Council by a Councilmember as a personal paper, or can come through a committee. In either case, almost all legislation goes before a committee for discussion at some time.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Legislation takes two forms — ordinances and resolutions. An ordinance establishes a permanent rule of government. Every official act of the Council, having the force and effect of law, must be an ordinance. Ordinances must be read before full Council at two regular meetings. There are exceptions, for example, a Charter amendment requires three readings.

Resolutions usually express intent or support of various projects and enterprises or establish legislative policy of a general nature. Resolutions need be read only once and can be introduced and adopted at the same meeting.

Standing Committees

The standing committees meet to consider legislation and to make recommendations on each item. The Committees then report their actions to the full Council. Approximately 150 pieces of legislation is handled per meeting.

Citizens have the opportunity to appear before a standing committee and to express their views on any piece of legislation. (Citizen comments on matters related to zoning changes are heard by the Zoning Review Board which meets once a month and must give public notice of the hearing.) In some cases, the Council is required by law to hold a public hearing and must notify the public about the hearing.

Final Action

After a paper has been through the committee process, it is voted on by the full Council. The Council may accept or reject the committee's recommendations. A majority vote is needed for adoption.

When a paper is adopted by the Council, it goes to the mayor for signature. The paper must be approved or vetoed within seven days. If not signed or vetoed within that period, it automatically becomes law. If vetoed, the Council can override with a two-thirds vote.

The Atlanta City Council

The president of the City Council is elected from the city at-large. The Council consists of 15 members, 12 elected from single-member districts and 3 elected at-large.

The Council president presides at all meetings of the Council and votes in the case of a tie. He appoints chairs and members of the various committees, subject to rejection by a majority of the Council.

The Council president exercises all powers and discharges all duties of the mayor in case of a vacancy in that office or during the disability of the mayor.

The current Council members are elected to a four-year term commencing with the first Monday in January. The members of the Council elect a president pro tempore to serve a one-year term beginning with the first meeting in January. The president pro tempore presides over the Council meetings in the president's absence. Councilmembers serve part-time and are paid an annual salary of \$32,473. The Council president is paid \$37,885 annually.

2010 Scheduled Meetings

Monday

Committee on Council Full Council

11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

January 4, 2010
January 19, 2010
February 1, 2010
February 15, 2010
March 1, 2010
March 15, 2010
April 19, 2010

May 3, 2010
May 17, 2010
June 7, 2010
June 21, 2010
July 6, 2010
July 19, 2010
August 16, 2010

September 7, 2010
September 20, 2010
October 4, 2010
October 18, 2010
November 1, 2010
November 15, 2010
December 6, 2010

Tuesday

City Utilities Committee Community Development Public Safety Committee

10:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

January 12, 2010
January 26, 2010
February 9, 2010
February 23, 2010
March 9, 2010
March 30, 2010
April 27, 2010

May 11, 2010
June 1, 2010
June 15, 2010
June 29, 2010
July 13, 2010
July 27, 2010
August 31, 2010

September 14, 2010
September 28, 2010
October 12, 2010
October 26, 2010
November 9, 2010
November 30, 2010
December 14, 2010

Wednesday

Transportation Committee Zoning Committee Finance/Executive Committee

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

January 13, 2010
January 27, 2010
February 10, 2010
February 24, 2010
March 10, 2010
March 31, 2010
April 28, 2010

May 12, 2010
June 2, 2010
June 16, 2010
June 30, 2010
July 14, 2010
July 28, 2010
September 1, 2010

September 15, 2010
September 29, 2010
October 13, 2010
October 27, 2010
November 10, 2010
December 1, 2010
December 15, 2010

Recess

April 5 - 16, 2010
August 2 - 13, 2010
December 20 - 31, 2010

Atlanta City Council and Committee on Council Meeting Dates

January 19, 2010 (Tuesday) (MLK Holiday Monday, 01/18/2010)
February 01, 2010
February 15, 2010
March 01, 2010
March 15, 2010
April 19, 2010
May 03, 2010
May 17, 2010
June 07, 2010
June 21, 2010
July 06, 2010 (Tuesday) (Monday, July 5th observed for 4th of July Holiday)
July 19, 2010
August 16, 2010
September 07, 2010 (Tuesday) (Labor Day Holiday 09/06/2010)
September 20, 2010
October 04, 2010
October 18, 2010
November 01, 2010
November 15, 2010
December 06, 2010 (Final meeting of Year)

City Utilities Committee, Community Development/Human Resources Committee, Public Safety & Legal Administration Committee Meeting Dates

January 12, 2010	May 11, 2010	September 14, 2010
January 26, 2010	June 01, 2010	September 28, 2010
February 09, 2010	June 15, 2010	October 12, 2010
February 23, 2010	June 29, 2010	October 26, 2010
March 09, 2010	July 13, 2010	November 09, 2010
March 30, 2010	July 27, 2010	November 30, 2010
April 27, 2010	August 31, 2010	December 14, 2010

Transportation Committee, Zoning Committee and Finance / Executive Committee Meeting Dates

January 13, 2010	May 12, 2010	September 15, 2010
January 27, 2010	June 02, 2010	September 29, 2010
February 10, 2010	June 16, 2010	October 13, 2010
February 24, 2010	June 30, 2010	October 27, 2010
March 10, 2010	July 14, 2010	November 10, 2010
March 31, 2010	July 28, 2010	December 01, 2010
April 28, 2010	September 01, 2010	December 15, 2010

RECESS – No meetings
APRIL 05, 2010 – APRIL 16, 2010
AUGUST 02, 2010 – AUGUST 13, 2010
DECEMBER 20, 2010 – DECEMBER 31, 2010

***All committee meetings take place the week before the first and third Mondays with the exception of Committee on Council, which meets on the first and third Monday. Dates, times and locations are subject to change with prior notice.**

2010 Atlanta City Council Committee Assignments

City Utilities Committee

Natalyn Mosby Archibong, Chair
Carla Smith
Howard Shook
Kwanza Hall
Aaron Watson
Yolanda Adrean

Briefing: Tuesday 9:00 a.m.
Meeting: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.
Policy Analyst: Alfred Berry, Jr.
Secretary: Fredrieca Cooper

Community Development/Human Resources

Joyce Sheperd, Chair
Michael Julian Bond
Kwanza Hall
Alex Wan
Clela Winslow
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.

Briefing: Tuesday 11:30 a.m.
Meeting: Tuesday 12:30 p.m.
Policy Analyst: Stephen Tam
Secretary: Angela Campbell

Public Safety Committee

Ivory Lee Young, Jr. Chair
H. Lamar Willis
Yolanda Adrean
Keisha Lance Bottoms
C.T. Martin
Natalyn Mosby Archibong
Joyce Sheperd

Briefing: Monday 11:00 a.m.
Meeting: Tuesday 3:00 p.m.
Policy Analyst: Bernard Thomas
Secretary: Fredrieca Cooper

Transportation Committee

C.T. Martin, Chair
H. Lamar Willis
Felicia A. Moore
Carla Smith
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Michael Julian Bond
Natalyn Mosby Archibong

Briefing: Monday 2:30 p.m.
Meeting: Wednesday 9:30 a.m.
Policy Analyst: Larry Stokes
Secretary: Wasonna Griffin

Zoning Committee

Aaron Watson, Chair
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Carla Smith
Clela Winslow
Howard Shook

Briefing: Wednesday 10:30 a.m.
Meeting: Wednesday 11:00 a.m.
Policy Analyst: Alfred Berry, Jr.
Secretary: Angela Campbell

Finance / Executive Committee

Yolanda Adrean, Chair
Howard Shook
C.T. Martin
Felicia Moore
Aaron Watson
H. Lamar Willis
Alex Wan

Briefing: Monday 1:00 p.m.
Meeting: Wednesday 1:00 p.m.
Policy Analyst: Larry Stokes/LaShawn Gardiner
Secretary: Wasonna Griffin Charlene Parker

Committee on Council

Felicia Moore, Chair
Michael Julian Bond
Alex Wan
Clela Winslow
Joyce Sheperd
Kwanza Hall

Briefing: Monday 9:00 a.m.
Meeting: Monday 11:00 a.m.
Policy Analyst: Bernard Thomas
Secretary: Wasonna Griffin

Council District



At Large Post

City Council Person
of Atlanta

